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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1477
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6332
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 3656
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7519
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 4776
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2028
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0592
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 2099
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 3197
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1924
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 4226
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 4665
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 9250
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 0900
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 2063
RHMFIUU/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
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SUBJECT: SENATE APPROVES VENEZUELAN MILITARY COOPERATION

REF: LA PAZ 2732

(SBU) On November 22, opposition political party Podemos abandoned the senate in protest of the Movement Toward Socialism's (MAS) pending land reform law, as well as the MAS' approval of a simple majority vote in the Constituent Assembly. During a late-night session on November 28, with the presence of Movement Toward Socialism (MAS) senators and two opposition alternate senators, the senate achieved quorum and approved five new laws (septel), including the Bolivian-Venezuelan military agreement. As reported in reftel, the agreement, which had been pending since October, provides for increased military cooperation between the two countries and construction of two military bases in eastern Bolivia.
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